

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4052

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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UNCLAS ROME 4491

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IT YO

SUBJ: L'UNITA ON ITALO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS

1. IN SIGNED EDITORIAL BY PCI FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECTION HEAD SERGIO SEGRE, MARCH 30 L'UNITA SETS FORTH BALANCED ITALIAN COMMUNIST POSITION ON ITALO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS IN CONTEXT OF CURRENT DISPUTE OVER ZONE B. AFTER REVIEWING PERIOD OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN ITALY AND YUGOSLAVIA, SEGRE, WITHOUT SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO ZONE B QUESTION, NOTES INSTANCES OF PAST BILATERAL FRICTIONS WHICH HE SAYS HAVE BEEN RESOLVED ON BASIS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. ITALIAN INTEREST IS TO SUPPORT STRONG, NON-ALIGNED YUGOSLAVIA WHILE BELGRADE'S INTEREST IS CONSOLIDATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY IN ITALY.

2. CITING CONCILIATORY VIEWS ON ITALO-YUGOSLAV DIFFERENCES EXPRESSED BY ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTY AND RESPECTED NEWSPAPERS, CORRIERE DELLA SERA AND LA STAMPA, SEGRE ASSERTS THE NECESSITY TO MOVE AHEAD WITH THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH THE IMPROVEMENT OF ITALO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS HAS MADE IN THE INTEREST OF EUROPE. SEGRE CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN ROME AND BELGRADE ARE IMPORTANT NOT ONLY IN BILATERAL CONTEXT BUT AS POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO CSCE OUTCOME. THEREFORE, ITALIAN AND YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENTS HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO MOVE FORWARD IN THEIR RELATIONS, "AS IS BOTH NECESSARY AND POSSIBLE".VOLPE
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